

MXL Revelation Variable Pattern Tube Microphone

The MXL Revelation mic is the follow-up to their popular Genesis tube microphone and expands their Studio Collection Series. The hefty Revelation has a custom body design that minimizes resonance. What is very unique is, unlike most tube condenser mics, it uses a hand-selected EF86 pentode tube instead of a typical triode. Any guitar amp connoisseur will tell you about the special sound of guitar amps that use EF86s in the pre-amp section. Those amps, like this mic, deliver rich harmonics and a warm tonal character.

Right away in my Tones 4 \$ Studios I immediately heard the unique character of my cool-looking midnight blue Revelation as compared to some other tube condenser mics I own. It has a dual gold-sputtered, 6-micron diaphragm capsule and I liked the continuous variable polar pattern selector control on the beefy power supply. I am able to artistically adjust the pattern anywhere from omnidirectional to figure of 8 to cardioid or anywhere in between for just the right balance between my recording space and the direct sound coming from my vocalist. There is a slight wait for the capsule to recharge when changing patterns but it's no biggie and in any mode, I found this mic sounded wonderful on everything.

Other features include a -10 dB attenuation pad, a bass roll-off switch that gets rid of rumble from my A/C and reduces the proximity effect of super closer singers—a vocal effect I like. I found the Revelation to excel in every use in the studio from vocals, to acoustic guitar, to drum overheads, room miking or even grand piano—but get two of them for those applications.

The Revelation includes an aluminum flight case, Mogami® cables—15ft 7-pin and 15ft XLR, Revelation power supply, shock mount, and cleaning cloth. It sells for \$1,495 MSRP and for much more information, check www.mxlmics.com.

